

## ***SAN ANTONIO Class LPD-17***

### ***Description***

The SAN ANTONIO Class LPD-17 is the newest amphibious ship class designed to provide the large lift capacity necessary for the rapid build-up of combat power ashore. In addition, it significantly enhances the operational flexibility of a three ship Amphibious Ready Group. It will carry about 700 Marines, have a vehicle stowage capacity of 25,000 square feet, a cargo stowage capacity of 27,000 cubic feet, a well deck sized for two Landing Crafts, Air Cushions, and a flight deck capable of simultaneous operation of two CH-53E Super Stallions, two MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, or four CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters. This ship class is optimized for size, flexibility, and economy.

### ***Operational Impact***

Current emphasis on regional contingencies and rapid deployment by naval expeditionary forces increases the importance of amphibious lift assets. The LPD-17 class is required to overcome shortfalls of amphibious lift assets caused by the decommissioning of aging LPDs, LSTs, LHAs, and LSDs. When construction is completed, the 12 SAN ANTONIO Class LPDs will provide the Navy the additional amphibious lift required to achieve the fiscally constrained 2.5 Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) Assault Echelon lift requirement while also providing the lift necessary to meet crisis response and forward presence requirements.

### ***Program Status***

The 1990 DoN Integrated Amphibious Operations and Marine Corps Air Support Requirements Study reaffirmed the SAN ANTONIO Class requirement. The Mission Needs Statement was validated in September 1990 and the DAB approved Milestone 0 in November 1990. Preliminary design work was completed in November 1993 and was followed by commencement of contract design. The contract for the lead ship was awarded in December 1996. Initial delivery is scheduled for FY03.

### ***Procurement Profile: FY 01                      FY02***

<i>Funded</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Deliver</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

### ***Developer/Manufacturer***

Avondale Industries  
Bath Iron Works